

APR 13 2006

# KRIEG · DEVAULT LLP

## ATTORNEYS AT LAW

### FAX COVER PAGE

DATE: April 13, 2006

PAGES INCLUDING THIS PAGE: 25

TO: United States Patent and Trademark Office  
COMPANY: Examiner Candice C. Stokes, Art Unit 3738

FAX NUMBER: 571-273-8300  
PHONE NUMBER:

FROM: Douglas A. Collier

DIRECT DIAL: (317) 238-6333

FAX NUMBER: (317) 238-6371

RE: Response to Office Action for U.S. Patent Application No. 10/769,569 to Lim

COMMENTS: I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office at 571-273-8300 on:

April 13, 2006  
(Date of Transmission)

Douglas A. Collier  
Name of Registered Representative

*Douglas A. Collier*  
Signature

Hard copy will be sent via: ☐ Regular Mail☐ Overnight Courier☒ Fax Communication Only

Name of Sender: Douglas A. Collier

Client Matter No.: 333 MSDI-219

#### WARNING CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE

The documents constituting this fax transmittal contain confidential information belonging to the sender which is legally privileged. The information is intended only for the use of the individual(s) or entity named above. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any disclosure, copying, distribution or the taking of any action in reliance upon the content of this fax transmittal is strictly prohibited. If you have received this fax transmittal in error, please immediately notify us by telephone at the number below to arrange for return of the original documents to us. Thank you.

For Questions or Problems in Transmission, Please Contact our Fax Operators

KRIEG DEVAULT LLP  
ONE INDIANA SQUARE  
SUITE 2800  
INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46204  
TELEPHONE-(317) 636-4341  
FAX-(317) 636-1507

KRIEG DEVAULT LLP  
12800 N MERIDIAN STREET  
SUITE 300  
CARMEL, IN 46032  
TELEPHONE-(317) 566-1110  
FAX-(317) 636-1507

KRIEG DEVAULT GALVIN  
LLP  
5231 HOHMAN STREET  
HAMMOND, IN 46320  
TELEPHONE-(219) 933-0380  
FAX-(219) 933-0471

KRIEG DEVAULT LUNDY  
LLP  
825 ANTHONY WAYNE  
BUILDING  
203 EAST BERRY STREET  
FT. WAYNE, IN 46802  
TELEPHONE-(260) 422-1534  
FAX-(260) 423-1590

KD\_IM-693607\_1.DOC

**RECEIVED**  
**CENTRAL FAX CENTER**

**APR 13 2006**

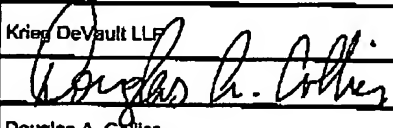
PTO/SB/21 (09-04)

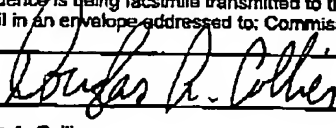
Approved for use through 07/31/2008. OMB 0651-0031  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b>  (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10769,569
	Filing Date	January 30, 2004
	First Named Inventor	Roy Lim
	Art Unit	3738
	Examiner Name	Robert W. Amarel Jr.
	Attorney Docket Number	MSDI-219/PC802.00
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	23	

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement  <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
Remarks		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT			
Firm Name	Krier DeVault LLP		
Signature			
Printed name	Douglas A. Collier		
Date	April 13, 2006	Reg. No.	43,556

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below:			
Signature			
Typed or printed name	Douglas A. Collier	Date	April 13, 2006

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

**RECEIVED**  
**CENTRAL FAX CENTER**

**APR 13 2006**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re patent application of:	)	Before the Examiner
Roy Lim	)	Robert W Amareld Jr.
	)	
Application Serial No. 10/769,569	)	Group Art Unit 3738
	)	
Filed: January 30, 2004	)	Ref. No. MSDI-219/PC902.00
	)	
INSTRUMENTS AND METHOD FOR	)	
MINIMALLY INVASIVE SPINAL	)	April 13, 2006
STABILIZATION	)	

**RESPONSE TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated January 13, 2006, please enter and consider the following amendments and remarks. No extensions of time or fees are believed due. However, please provide any extensions of time that may be necessary and charge any fees which may be necessary to Deposit Account No. 12- 2424, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office at 571-273-8300 on:

April 13, 2006  
(Date of Transmission)

Douglas A. Collier

Name of Registered Representative

*Douglas A. Collier*

Signature

Response to First Office Action  
Serial. No. 10/769,569  
Atty. Docket No. 4002-3305/PC902.00  
Page 1 of 23